AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please substitute the paragraphs of the specification identified below with the following replacement paragraphs, respectively:

1) Paragraph beginning on page 3, line 12.

The present invention may be embodied as a surgical device as shown in FIG. 1 and FIG. 2. The surgical device **10** may have an ergonomic handle **12**, shaped to conform to a user's hand **14** held in a relaxed functional position, thus reducing hand and wrist strain that ultimately leads to Carpal Tunnel Syndrome and chronic joint stress. The ergonomic handle may comprise a sidewall having a handle aperture **15** formed therein, and may be in the shape of a pistol grip, or any other shape that allows the user's hand **14** to be held in a relaxed position. The surgical device may also include a finger actuator **16**, having a translating shaft **28** and a finger receiving portion 30 or section **30**, configured to receive a single finger (ideally the index finger) of a user through the handle aperture **15**.

2) Paragraph beginning on page 4, line 21.

As shown in FIG. 4, the finger actuator **16** may be configured in a variety of ways. These configurations should not be seen as limiting the number of ways that the finger actuator **16** may be constructed, but as examples showing possible variations. Generally, they may consist of a ~~rod~~ translating shaft **28** with a finger receiving section **30** a,b,c,d to allow the user to slide the translating shaft ~~or rod~~ **28** along the longitudinal axis **19** of the elongate tubular portion **18** (see FIG. 1). Configuration **30b** is deemed to be the preferred embodiment because the actuator **16** is fully symmetrical about axis **19.** In embodiments utilizing the ratcheting mechanism **24** (see FIG. 2), ratcheting teeth **32** may be disposed on one end of the translating shaft ~~or rod~~ **28** to engage the ratcheting mechanism **24**. As further illustrated in FIG. 4, the translating shaft **28** of the finger actuator **16** extends in opposing directions away from the finger receiving section **30**. Specifically, the translating shaft **28** is shown as extending in a forward direction away from the finger receiving section **30**, and in a rearward direction away from the finger receiving section **30**, along the same axis. The translating shaft **28** is configured to extend, in one or both directions, at least partially beyond the handle aperture formed in the sidewall of the ergonomic handle (see FIGS. 1 and 2).